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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.              | CONFIRMATION NO.       |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 08/841,644  | 04/30/1997  | SHUNPEI YAMAZAKI     | 0756-1603                        | 3399                   |
| 7590  | 03/02/2007  |                      |                                  |                        |
| Eric J. Robinson<br>Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office<br>21010 Southbank Street<br>PMB 955<br>Potomac Falls, VA 20165 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>SCHILLINGER, LAURA M |                        |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2813                 | PAPER NUMBER           |
|   |             |                      | MAIL DATE<br>03/02/2007          | DELIVERY MODE<br>PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**DETAILED ACTION**

*Interference*

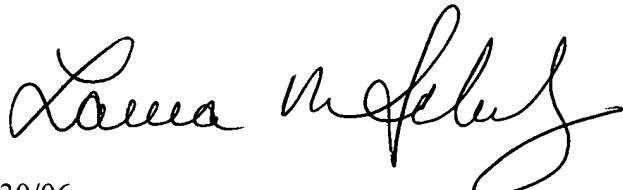
1. All claims are allowable. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.606 and 1.607(b), Examiner has determined that interfering subject matter is claimed in Claims 23-32 of the current application and claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent 5,561,075 which is patentable to the applicant subject to a judgment in the interference. The interfering subject matter is properly defined by a proposed count submitted by the applicant in Paper No. 3 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.607(a and c). The application is being forwarded to the Board of Appeals and Interferences for a possible declaration of an interference.

*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura M. Schillinger whose telephone number is (571) 272-1697. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T, R-F 7:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl W. Whitehead, Jr. can be reached on (571) 272-1702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Laura M Schillinger  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2813

11/30/06

# INTERFERENCE INITIAL MEMORANDUM

Count # \_\_\_\_\_

## To the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences:

An interference is proposed involving the following 2 parties

| PARTY | APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | PATENT NO., IF ANY | ISSUE DATE, IF ANY |
|-------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|       | 08/841,644      | 4/30/1997   | N/A                | N/A                |

If the involved case is a patent, have its maintenance fees been paid?  Yes  No  Not due yet

Proposed priority benefit (list all intervening applications necessary for continuity):

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | PATENT NO., IF ANY | ISSUE DATE, IF ANY |
|---------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Japan   | 3-135569        | 05/11/1991  | N/A                | N/A                |
| Japan   | 3-65418         | 03/06/1991  | N/A                | N/A                |
|         |                 |             |                    |                    |
|         |                 |             |                    |                    |

The claim(s) of this party corresponding to this count:

|                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS | UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

23-32

The claim(s) of this party NOT corresponding to this count: None

|                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS | UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

| PARTY | APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | PATENT NO., IF ANY | ISSUE DATE, IF ANY |
|-------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|-------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|

Nao Kizawa 08/439180 05/09/1995 5,561,075 10/01/1996

If the involved case is a patent, have its maintenance fees been paid?  Yes  No  Not due yet

Proposed priority benefit (list all intervening applications necessary for continuity):

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | PATENT NO., IF ANY | ISSUE DATE, IF ANY |
|---------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Japan   | 269675/91       | 10/17/1991  | N/A                | N/A                |
| Japan   | 102668/91       | 05/08/1991  | N/A                | N/A                |
|         |                 |             |                    |                    |
|         |                 |             |                    |                    |

The claim(s) of this party corresponding to this count:

|                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS | UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

1-12

N/A

The claim(s) of this party NOT corresponding to this count:

|                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS | UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

N/A

N/A

(Check off each step, if applicable) **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Obtain all files listed above.
- 2. Confirm that the proposed involved claims are still active and all corrections and entered amendments have been considered. The patents must not be expired for, among other things, failure to pay a maintenance fee (Check PALM screen 2970).
- 3. If one of the involved files is a published application or a patent, check for compliance with 35 U.S.C. 135(b).
- 4. Obtain a certified copy of any foreign benefit documents where necessary (37 CFR 1.55(a)).
- 5. Discuss the proposed interference with an Interference Practice Specialist in your Technology Center.

|                          |   |                  |  |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|--|
| DATE<br>05 December 2006 | PRIMARY EXAMINER (Signature)<br><i>Shreya Patel</i>                           | ART UNIT<br>2813 | TELEPHONE NO.<br>000-0000 571-272-1697 |
| DATE                     | INTERFERENCE PRACTICE SPECIALIST or TECHNOLOGY CENTER<br>DIRECTOR (signature) | TELEPHONE NO.    |  |